Technical Assistance from US based Firms

615. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to associate a US based technical consultancy firm of NRI's led by Mr. Pathak to advise and supply technological inputs to public sector units in India;

(b) if so, what is the scope of technological association and whether any specific new technological proposals are under consideration; and

(c) if so, what are the details of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) The Government have approved formation of a Joint Venture Company to be formed with participation of a few selected public enterprises with an NRI American Company formed by Shri Pathak for rendering specialised management and technological services. The company will have to compete on merit for securing award of contracts etc., and its proposals will be considered on a case to case basis. No price preference will be given to the company. There is no specific technologyical proposal under consideration at present.

Upto Date Telephone Directory for Delhi

616. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that after the telephone directory 1986 was issued for Delhi, a large number of new telephone connections have been provided to the public and a large number of existing telephone numbers have been changed;

(b) if so, how many new telephone connections are likely to be provided by 31st March, 1988 and how many existing telephone numbers are likely to be changed by 31st March, 1988; and

(c) by when a new telephone directory for Delhi is likely to be used for use by the Public?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Since the publication of last supplementary directory, about 95,000 Gross telephone connections are expected to be provided and about 26,000 telephone numbers are expected to be changed, upto 31-3-1988.

(c) The new telephone directory for Delhi has been published and its distribution to subscribers will commence shortly.

Parallel Postal Services by Private Agencies

617. SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that certain private agencies run the parallel postal services in agreement with Vayudoot and if so, whether such services were approved by Government; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b) The Ministry is not aware of any such arrangement between Vayudoot and private agencies. However, information shall be collected from the Ministry of Civil Aviation and will be laid on the Table of the House.